

Elizabeth To Take a Leave of Absence

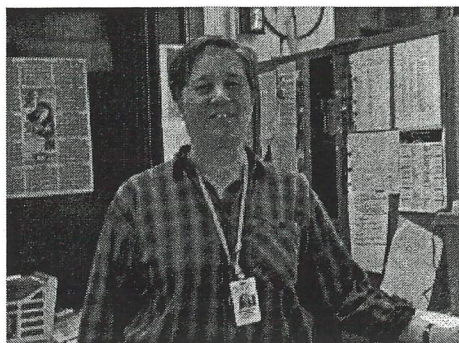
Ethan Williams

Staff Writer

Once again, Elizabeth Lehman will be taking a leave-of-absence to help her daughter pursue her acting career. Elizabeth will be gone for a period of about two months, flying out to LA on February 3 and coming back to school after spring break on April 9.

Elizabeth will be taking that time to support her daughter, Julia, as she auditions for a part in *Smallville*, a new Superman series which takes place in the super hero's teen years. Julia will also be auditioning for parts in many other pilot TV shows, movies, TV movies, and soap operas. She'll even be singing in a Los Angeles cabaret.

Julia will balance her auditioning out with acting classes and tutoring sessions so she can get all of her homework done. "She works harder than anyone I've ever seen!" remarked a very enthusiastic Elizabeth, who appeared to be very confident and proud of



her daughter.

Elizabeth selected Geri Connelly to fill in for her while she is away. Geri has a strong background in sculpting and also has a teenage son of her own who attends Central High School. Also, Geri has substituted for Elizabeth in the past, and has received rather positive reviews from students. ♦

Electives Reduced

Tony Cavanaugh

Staff Writer

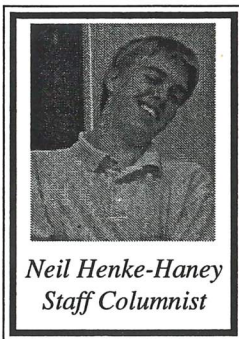
For many years, electives were the highlight of the day for ELC students. Now, however, things are different. The students used to attend two electives every day, one beginning at 12:40 and another at 1:30 as of last year. However, now there is only one elective that begins at 1:30.

Many are disappointed by the change. "I don't like the change. ELC electives are what made Open School Open School," said 6th grader Andrew Hoaglund, who has been here since kindergarten.

There are many factors that have contributed to this change. "The issue of how we need to approach our current ELC students is more than what can be covered in a one-minute interview," said Jack Mills, a 3rd-4th grade teacher in the ELC.

Most teachers agree that the change was made in response to a complex problem. Part of the issue could be related to discipline problems. According to program coordinator, Audrey Jeter, the ratio of ELC students to SLC students sent to the office for disciplinary reasons is about 4 to 1. ♦

Vikings Playoff Blunder Disappoints Faithful



Neil Henke-Haney
Staff Columnist

The Minnesota Vikings ended their Superbowl run Sunday January 14 with a loss to the New York Giants 41-0 in the Meadowlands. This was the Vikings' first shutout in Dennis Green's nine years as head

coach. Leo predicted that the Vikings would lose, but since he is an English teacher, I didn't believe him. I was proved wrong.

I watched the game with some friends like I do every week. I showed up at noon, a little late, like every other game. When I got to my friend's apartment and discovered the score, I was less than happy. The first play I watched was the Giants interception in the end zone and that made me even less happy.

As the game went on, our optimistic atti-

tude disappeared, and by the middle of the second quarter we couldn't take any more abuse. We turned off the sound on the television and my friend looked for a CD with the angriest vocals around. When he returned, he had in hand the self-titled album **Metallica** and **Rage Against the Machine's Bulls On Parade**. He turned up the volume and talked about better times, like how the Minnesota Twins never let us down when it counted.

The Vikings started the season 7-0 and went 11-2 before playing in December. After losing three straight to St. Louis, Green Bay and Indianapolis, they ended the regular season 11-5. They maintained the number two seed only because Tampa Bay's Martin Gramatica shanked a late field goal that would have helped Tampa clinch the game over Green Bay in week seventeen. After resting through the first round bye week the where predicted by many sports

VIKINGS Continued on 6



Also, See Miranda's View of the ELC, on page 4

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Week of Wonders

Amanda Villareal

Staff Writer

During the week of February 12 through the 23rd, All City Student Council will be doing a Food/Clothing/Book Drive. This Drive will be called "Week of Wonders."

There will be drop off boxes at local stores such as Rainbow Foods, Cub Foods, Target, and Barnes 'n Noble. There will also be drop off boxes at all St. Paul Public High Schools.

If you would like to donate any non-perishable food items, clothing, and/or books, you may drop them off at any of the above places.

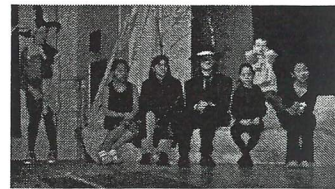
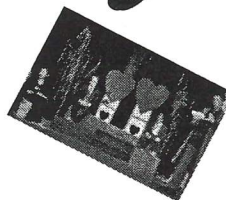
All City Student Council meets every other month. Six to eight members from each St. Paul Public High School get together and have a meeting. They usually talk about what they can do to make their schools a better place. Once a year they do a drive to help people in need.

There are five All City Student Council Members representing Open School. Those members are Adam Hurt, Azeneth Rodriguez, Raemara Valentines, Mai Thao, and Jillian Yang. If you have any questions you can ask any of the above people. All the donations will be given to people in need. "I think this is a wonderful idea that kids are getting involved, and helping people in need," says Raemara Valentines, parliamentarian of All City Student Council.

At the last meeting on December 13, 2000 the members of All City Student Council broke up into committees and discussed this drive.

For more information on the Food/Clothing/Book drive or how All City Student Council works please see Adam, Azeneth, Raemara, Mai, Jillian, or Marc. ♦

Snow Days Fun



Destination Imagination Underway

Sue Moua

Staff Writer

Preparation for another DI season is underway. There are eight DI teams this year - one ELC and seven SLC teams. The competition date for Regionals is March 3 at Harding High School.

This year's coaches are: Susanne Hollingsworth, Kiara Buchanan, Don Von, Kim Kvenild, Jennifer Schultz, and Greg Adams. Most teams have been practicing one to three days a week to get ready.

Greg Adams and Jennifer Schultz have four teams between the two of them. One of their problems is Incredible TechEffect. Teams with this problem will have to create a story using technical effects like electronics or computers. The Mystery Loves Company problem requires teams to write a mystery, and also have a communication device and science experiment that solves the problem. Two Triplicity requires a team to build a weight-bearing structure out of balsa wood,

paper, and glue. Don's team has the Triplicity problem, Kiara's team has Anonymously Yours, Susanne's team has Mystery Loves Company, and Kim's team has Anonymously Yours.

"I think (the problems) are going to be fun. They're going to be more technical," said Greg.

"It looks like fun and I think my team's going to be great at spontaneous," said Susanne. ♦



Getting Ready

SLC CALENDAR

JAN 30 - BASIC

STANDARDS WRITING TEST

FEB 6 - BASIC STANDARDS READING TEST

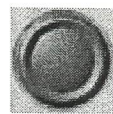
FEB 8 - BASIC STANDARDS MATH TEST

FEB 13 - SITE COUNCIL MEETING

FEB 19 - PRESIDENTS' DAY, NO SCHOOL

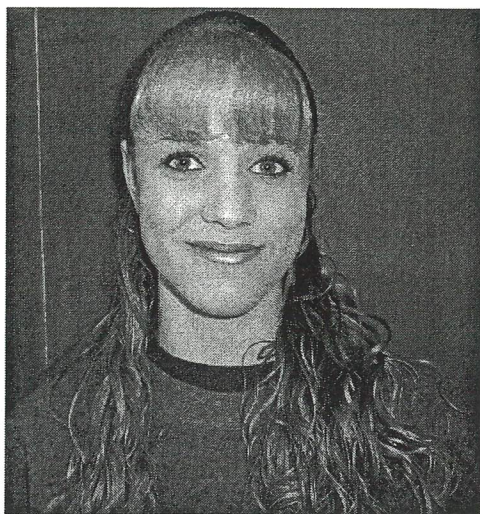
Coming Up . . .

For Valentines Day this year Student Government will again be selling red roses, red and white carnations, cookies, and cupcakes. You can order in advance, or buy them Valentines Day from 10am until 1:30pm. Student Government has also has a DJ for a SLC dance some time that day.



Jenny Bartel

Senior Profile



How long have you been at Open School?
5 years

If you could be an animal, what kind of animal would you be?

A cat because I am lovable

What is your favorite color?

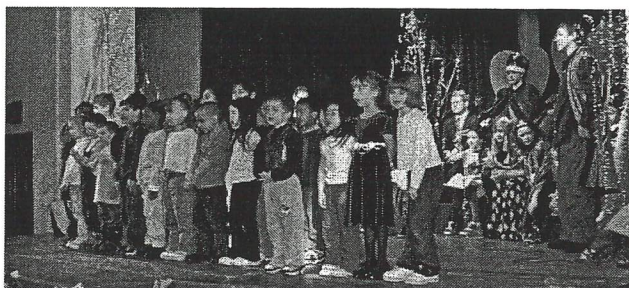
Blue

What will you miss most about Open School?

Friends and teachers

What do you want to be when you grow up?

A Cosmetologist



Iowa Scientists Tackle Gaur Problem

Joe Ring
Staff Writer

Scientists may have discovered a way to help an endangered species from destruction. The Gaur is a large cow-like animal indigenous to the tropical Indian region. This large one ton oxen would generally be awake in the morning and sleep during the hottest part of the day. Since man's introduction into their habitat, they have become nocturnal and sleep during the day. Its only defense from man would be to run like a guy with bees in his shorts into the jungle.

Sometime around November old Bessie will give birth to the first cloned bull called "Noah." If it is actually conceived, it will be a great advancement for biotechnology.

The company that is doing this is known as Advanced Cell Technology or ACT. They have had the best luck with large mammal in-vitro fertilization. "We all have our fingers crossed," said Dr. Paul Lanzan. "If we

pull this off it will blow the doors wide open on this field, though you can't really say much on it. Its more of an art form than a science still."

The Iowa-based company attempted with 692 nuclei. Out of that only 81 grew and began to multiply. Then only 42 made it to the invitro stage where they implanted 32 cows. Of course only eight of those got pregnant, two of those cows were given c-sections for study, four more were miscar-



riages and finally the seventh was terminated six months into term.

So you're thinking right now "this sounds like Jurassic Park." Well you're not far off. Cloning dead species is a very sensitive issue. "I think its a great idea," said science teacher Julie Doble. "That way they don't have to go out into the wild and collect the animals for the zoos."

The idea of cloning dead species is crazy. I wonder how long it will be until no animal will be born naturally. "If you support cloning, then you take away from natural habitat. If you don't, a species might get wiped out anyway," said Dr. Paul Lanzan. ♦



Opinions 'n' Staff



Change Is Hard What Women Want: Get It Cheap



Miranda Byrne
Staff Columnist

Whenever I look back on my childhood, everything seems so nice and perfect compared to the way things are now. My ELC years are filled with fond memories of a time when children were carefree and innocent, a time when their heads weren't filled with violent thoughts and it wasn't a common occurrence to have at least one parent in jail.

Practically everyone I knew came from middle class families with a mom and a dad who were involved in their childrens' lives and their school. Ten years ago this was the population of Open School. Now the population of Open School is changing and Open must change and conform to the demands of its students.

When the ELC staff decided to make a change in their curriculum by cutting down on electives, there was a huge outcry from parents and students. I must admit, when I first heard the news I felt the same way. I have been here since kindergarten and, trust me, things have changed and it makes me sad when I think about it.

When I was in the ELC, one of my favorite parts of it were the electives. Electives gave me a chance to learn through art, music, and explore topics we didn't cover in open class room. So when I heard the ELC was going to offer one elective instead of two, and it wasn't going to be everyday, I got mad. How could they do that?! By doing this I felt like the spirit of Open School was dying and it was just becoming like all the other schools. After talking to teachers, I realized Open had changed a long time ago, and that only now I was beginning to see it.

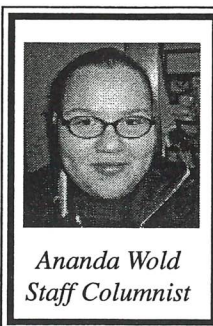
Of course whenever change occurs everyone's automatic reaction is, "NO! Why?" and "Change is bad!" For some reason it is drilled into our heads that change is bad, but why?

MIRANDA Continued on 8

What Women Want is a chick-flick about an advertising executive who finally gets what he deserves, or at least that's how I see it. Either you like it or you don't.

This long and boring film stars the old-but-not-bad-looking Mel Gibson as Nick Marshall, the ad executive, and Helen Hunt as Darcey McGuire, his new boss who took his job. Hunt is not nearly as old as Gibson, but looks a lot older.

Nick Marshall will sleep with anyone, so he uses his apparently irresistible charms to get women into bed. Then one day, while working at home on an ad idea, a freak accident gives him the "gift" of hearing what women think. At first this is too much information, as it would be for most males. However, Nick figures out how he can use it to get back at Darcey for stealing his job.



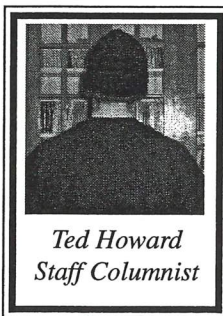
Ananda Wold
Staff Columnist

While using her thoughts to his advantage, he falls in love with her, and when she gets fired he begs for her job back. When Darcey hears about getting her job back and how Nick was stealing her thoughts... lets just say she is less than pleased. He also does some heroic things too. For example, he comes to a coworker's rescue when he hears her thinking about committing suicide.

In one word I thought this movie SUCKED. It was two hours of Gibson being a hero and jerk. While figuring out he was falling in love with Darcey, he hurt other women in the process by doing things like having one night stands and forgetting about them. One thing I could not get over for the whole movie was how OLD Helen Hunt looked. She looked like an anorexic fifty-year old who hits the tanning bed.

I think the writers and director were going for more of a comedy than I thought it was. Talking with my mom and Duncan Holmstrom's mom after seeing the movie, they said you have to have been in a lot of *WOMEN Continued on 8*

Dude, Where's My Money Back?



Ted Howard
Staff Columnist

I went to see *Dude Where's My Car* with the best of hopes. I knew it was gonna be stupid, but sometimes movies are so stupid they're funny. Not in this case though. I don't remember laughing throughout the whole movie.

Boy howdy I haven't wasted my money on a movie this bad since Kevin Sorbo's raging hit *Kull The Conqueror*.

The film is about Jesse (Ashton Kutcher) and Chester (Seann William Scott), a pair of "Gen X" stoners with nothing better to do than thumb wrestle in military helmets, until they go on a night of hard drinking. In the process, they lose Jesse's car and embark on a boring adventure searching for it

mean while, they alienate women by making one bad sexist joke after another and having every single woman in the movie wear almost nothing. In addition, it estranges homosexuals by poking fun at two aliens who apparently are "too close," Asian Americans by making fun of chinese food clerks that don't speak English very well, and many more as their idiot-fest continue.

I have seen Kutcher in his weekly T.V. program *That 70's Show* and I've seen Scott in his hit movie *Road Trip*. I found them both to be funny, well rounded actors. In this film they had no chemistry, with each other or any other actors for that matter. It seemed to me that the movie was only PG 13 because they wanted to swear and show almost naked women. If not, it would have been rated G because six-year-olds would have been the only ones that would laugh at slop *DUDE Continued on 8*

The Evolution Is Here On WB Saturday

Exploding out of this summer's blockbuster movie, *X-Men the Movie*, comes a new X-Men animated TV series on the WB network elegantly entitled *X-Men: Evolution*.

The *X-Men: Evolution* series is set in the early years of the mutant group's development, while most of the X-Men are still teenagers and are just beginning to discover their mutant powers. But don't worry, good old mutant fighting is still the main event in the show.

X-Men: Evolution includes many of the classic characters, however, a new mutant named Spyke has been added to the X-Men cast, in attempts refresh the comic series' image.

X-Men: Evolution is a modernized depiction of a classic comic book series. Its lessons in X-Men history are interesting enough



Ethan Williams
Staff Columnist

to hold the attention of its teenaged viewers and its fight scenes have just enough action, but not too much violence, to hold the attention of its younger viewers.

I believe that if this series can keep developing a changing storyline that holds the interests of its teenage viewers with its slight touch of realism, then it will be a definite success. However, it must strive to avoid monotonous storylines similar to its preceding *X-Men* series of the early 90's. Unfortunately, *X-Men: Evolution's* attempts to reach out to its teenage audience, by using slang words such as tight in character dialogues, results in a rather pitiful attempt to get with the times.

All in all the show held my attention. However, I still can't figure out if I watched it because I liked it, or if I watched it just because it was the only cartoon that I recognized on Saturday morning television. *X-Men: Evolution* is on the WB network at 10:30 am on Saturday. ♦

Anime's Not Just For Nerds Anymore

Anime seems to be on the rise again. It's not just for nerds anymore. Everyone is jumping on the Anime bandwagon.

For those of you who do not already know what Anime is, Anime is animation from Japan. You know, those ones that gave all those Japanese kids seizures. Not only are American kids watching now, but American companies like Disney and Warner Brothers are copying the style.

Ever since the TV show *Dragon Ball Z* came out in 1992, Anime started to move mainstream. Then *Sailor Moon* came out and the Sci-Fi channel started to do a once-a-year, week-long Anime marathon. It wasn't long before every one was watching anime, from *Poke'mon* to *RoboTech*.

Anime is Japanese for animation, duh, but it's not your ordinary cartoon. In American cartoons, characters are exaggerated, but not their actions. In Anime, it's the other way around, meaning it looks more realistic, but there is no way a little girl can lift a bus.

Anime comes in many forms: Kiddy Anime, Action, Bubble Gum, Intellectual, and others I won't mention.

Some Kiddy Anime includes: *Hello Kitty*, *Poke'mon* and *Samurai Pizza Cats*. They consist of simple plots and ridiculously cheesy jokes.

There are two major types of action, Mecha and Magic. Mecha is a Japanese pronunciation of mechanization, like robots. *RoboTech*, *Transformers*, and *Gundam Wing* are popular mecha shows whereas the magical ones have the characters, from destroying the earth. Just when the side kicks are about to lose, the hero is fully revived and is now ungodly powerful and destroys the evil characters.

Tenchi Muyo, *Lum Returns*, and *Ranma 1/2* are considered Bubble Gum. Bubble Gum (or brain candy). It's like if you took Kiddy Anime and Action and forced them to mate. It's a little bit more intelligent than Kiddy Anime, and has less action than Action, but the jokes are just as cheesy. The standard plot is a bunch of girls have a crush on the main male character, and he has a crush on the one girl who does not like him, which allows for various antics.

ANIME Continued on 8



Aaron I-S
Staff Columnist

It's The Blood of the Dragon for Arthur



Arthur Minnerly
Staff Columnist

Jane Yolen's book *Dragon's Blood* is the first in a series of three books about a boy named Jakkin and his dealings with dragons, on the planet Austur IV.

Austur IV is a distant penal colony,

set aside for convicts from Earth, that the Federation dumped there to let die in Dark After, a time of day, or survive in the mountains.

Jakkin is from Austur IV, and he's a bonder. That means he needs to raise enough money to fill a small bag, called a bond bag, in order to earn his freedom. After this penal colony was founded, the common way to make convicts x-convicts, was to use the bondage system, and now it's sort of customary for low class citizens.

But now Austur IV is no longer as much of a penal colony as a place for off-worlders to come and see the famous pit fights of its native dragons. Jakkin works at one of the dragon ranches. For years, Jakkin has wanted to steel a new born dragon during hatching season, to raise as a pit fighter. But

every year he was unprepared for the upkeep of one. Yet this time it might become a reality. . .

The plot of this book, and the other two books, is basically: there's a boy with a dragon, that gets in trouble. What I really liked about all three of these books was how the people and dragons in the story interacted with each other mentally. Jakkin was always able to get bursts of color from different dragons that signaled different emotions.

It was cool, because for the most part, they completely understood each other, and that's something I've always wanted to be able to do with other animals. It was written by Jane Yolen, and I know Barnes and Noble usually has it, plus you can find it on the Internet if you search under her name. The next two in the series are *Heart's Blood* and *A Sending of Dragons*. I'd recommend all three to anyone who likes fairly short reads about big fire breathing lizards that fly.

Also, try Anne McCaffrey. ♦



The Simpsons Are Still Going Strong

Cameron Beittler

Staff Writer

Many years ago Matt Groening had an idea to create a TV family named *The Simpsons*. Who knew it would become the longest running comedy still on the air?

The Simpsons have been around for 11 years and somehow they have managed to keep it funny. Some people think that it is Homer's hilarious antics: "mmm unprocessed fish sticks." Others think that it is the funny specials, like the 138 episode spectacular and the always hilarious Halloween specials.

The Simpsons is also filled with amazing supporting characters. One of my favorites, Ralph Wiggum, who is the son of Chief Wiggum in Springfield. They both have no clue what is going on. No one really knows how Chief Wiggum became police chief, but he is and no one is complaining. Another funny supporting

character is Apu Nahasapeemapetilon, the clerk at the Kwiky Mart. He has one of the best catch phrases in the show, "Thank you, come again."

Sometimes the show doesn't make sense. For example, there was one episode where Homer climbs to the top of Mount Springfield on Power Sauce Bars (apple cores and Chinese newspapers). When he gets near the top he starts get light headed and imagines taking an escalator to the top. When he realizes that he is day dreaming he has lots of cuts and had lost one of his boots and he is sliding down the mountain side. In the next scene he is fine and climbing to the top.

One thing a lot of people don't know is that the voices of the main characters do more then just one person's voices. Like

Dan Castallanta, who is the voice of Homer, also plays the voices of Krusty the Clown and Barney, just to name a few. One other weird thing is that Bart and Ralph's voices are played by a woman (Nancy Cartwright).

A lot of Open schoolers think *The Simpsons* is the best show on TV. Now I think we should see why people like *The Simpsons*.

It is "funny and it teaches you things," said 9th grader Clara Iwaszek. Most people said that their favorite character is Ralph. "My favorite episode is where Homer has to ruin Moe's car but goes and watches a movie instead," said 9th grader Gus Olsen. Stupid Homer. As *The Simpsons* get underway with their twelfth season, who knows what creator Matt Groening has in store for us. ♦

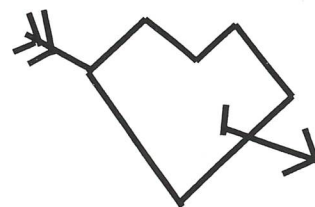


Pandas Like To Eat Bamboo.
So do I and So Should YOU!

Top Ten Things Young People Love To Hate:

- 1.) Wooden ducks
- 2.) Anything with spinach
- 3.) Math homework
- 4.) Elvis
- 5.) Semi-educational bricks, a.k.a. textbooks
- 6.) Losing sports teams
- 7.) Rules of any type, context, or manner
- 8.) The annoying purple dinosaur, Barney
- 9.) Paying to see over-hyped, really bad, movies
- 10.) Spell check

The Purple Press Loves All The People In The School,



Even If They Don't Love Us Back!

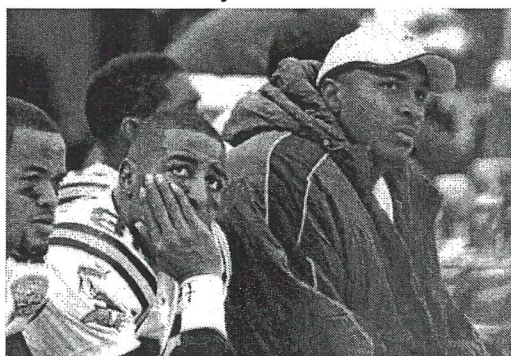
VIKINGS From 1

writers to lose the divisional playoff game at home against New Orleans Saints. In that game the Vikings dominated the Saints 34-16 in what appeared to be their best game of the year. After seeing their performance, many critics changed their minds, and fans couldn't be happier. "If you would have told me the Vikings would be playing Kerry Collins in the NFC title game, I would have said hell yeah, we are going to the Super bowl," said 10th grader and notorious Vikings fan Robin Steinmetz. But it all came to a

disappointing end.

Looking to the future, there are changes that need to be made. I would change the defense around completely. First I would release every defensive

player except Chris Hovan, Robert Tate and Robert Griffith. I would also release David Palmer, Andrew Jordan, John Davis and maybe Matt Hatchette. I would worry most



about getting a earlier draft pick, and using it to draft a decent cornerback. Then I would sign Randy Moss and Robert Smith to big expensive contracts (with money left over from get-

ting rid of John Randle).

I would also think about playing Randy Moss as a nickel or dime back because he's really fast and can get to the ball, he is big and can knock the ball away, and because the Vikings would invest so much money in him anyway he might as well play both ways. I hope the Vikings will do something different so I don't get disappointed again. next year. ♦

How Sierra Got Her Groove Back

Sierra Blakely
Staff Writer

About two or three weeks ago, the movie *The Emperor's New Groove* opened in theaters everywhere, leaving me searching for a chance to see it. It looked interesting enough, and it didn't really bother me that it was mainly for younger audiences. I mean, it looked funny!

The basic plot is that the emperor Kuzco, who has been spoiled since birth, is completely convinced that he is the center of everybody's lives. He is proved wrong when he fires his advisor Yzma, who is extremely ancient, for trying to run things behind his back. Infuriated, Yzma and her dimwitted assistant Kronk get a potion that instead of having the desired effect of killing him, turns him into a llama. Discovering that her plan didn't work, she orders Kronk to kill the emperor. Kronk, however, doesn't have the guts to do it, and so in trying to find a way to hide him, he falls down the stairs, letting go of the bundle, which falls onto the back of a peasant's cart

that is leaving the city.

Coincidentally, the cart that Kuzco is on is owned by a peasant called Pacha, who has just found out that his hillside village is about to be destroyed to make way for 'Kuzcotopia,' the emperor's new pool. Stuck together, Pacha and Kuzco try to return to his kingdom so that Kuzco can be changed back. Together, they take on waterfalls, panthers, crocodiles and being stuck in gorges in a quest to return the emperor to his human form. They also learn the value of friendship.

Now, I thought that this was a good idea for a movie, but with all of the narration by the emperor, and skipping around in the beginning, it just seemed kind of pieced together in some parts, almost like they didn't know where to go in some scenes. However, it's still hilarious. I'll say this much: if you want to hear a lot of funny one-liners made by a talking llama, then this is the movie for

you.

During the movie, as far as I can tell, I just sat with a silly grin on my face, taking it all in. It is really funny, with the main characters being played by David Spade (Kuzco), Eartha Kill (Yzma), Patrick Warburton (Kronk), and John Goodman (Pacha). The music was made by Sting, but

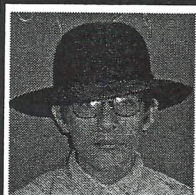
it still sounds like most Disney soundtracks.

All in all, I thought it was a good movie, and that everyone who wants to, should definitely go and

see it. I'm giving this movie four stars, because it could have been better, but it was still fall-off-your-seat funny. ♦



Build Your Own Computer the Shmuel Way He Swears It's Not Rocket Science



Shmuel B-S
Staff Columnist

A computer is an electronic device that is capable of input, output, and being capable of performing more than one function. Contrary to popular opinion, building PCs does not require that you be some kind of super-genius rocket scientist. It just requires that you have some basic knowledge on the components and assembly required. You should be able to acquire the necessary knowledge by reading this article. I apologize if some of the explanations seem overly lengthy, but I'm trying to make it so that everyone could understand.

One reason you may want to build a computer is because the basic components for a computer would cost one-half to one-third the cost of an equivalent preassembled computer. There are several key components you need to possess and understand to be able to proceed with the assembly process. These are: a box, a floppy drive, a hard drive, a

floppy drive cable, a hard drive cable, a power source, two power cables, some RAM chips, a motherboard (not a 'fatherboard,' as Geoff would say), a monitor card and a monitor.

These items could be acquired at Computer Renaissance (either in the store, or in the dumpster out back).

All right, now to explaining. The box is the case that the floppy drive, hard drive, motherboard, RAM chips, the power source, and the monitor card go in. The floppy drive is the drive that reads floppy disks. The floppy drive cable plugs into the back of the floppy drive. The hard drive is the drive that all permanent information, such as the operating system, is stored on. The hard drive cable plugs into the back of the hard drive. The power source generally comes with a box, but sometimes needs to be acquired separately.

There are plugs coming from the power source that plug into the hard drive, floppy drive, and motherboard. The motherboard is the primary board. It is where the other end of the hard drive and floppy drive cables

are plugged into. It is also where the RAM chips are plugged in. The monitor card is also inserted into a slot on the motherboard. The power cables are used to provide power from any three-pronged outlet to the power source and the monitor. The monitor is the display device. It has a cord in the back which may or may not be permanently attached. This cord plugs into the monitor card. RAM (Random Access Memory) chips provide memory to make the computer run. The more RAM you have, the better the computer will run.

But wait, this article isn't over yet! Be sure to look for the next installment of "Shmuel Likes Computers," coming soon!!

MIRANDA From 4

Things are different now. I walk through the halls and hear first graders shouting profanities at each other and making crude gestures. Not only to each other, but to older students and teachers as well. It seems to me like the innocence and eagerness to learn that used to be found in little kids is gone. Or maybe it's not, maybe you just have to look harder for it than you used to.

"The kids are getting tougher," said Jaminie Dorner-Kellog, 1st grade teacher at Open School. "We don't have students anymore who can be self-directed and parents who work with them."

It's sad but true. The clientele of Open School is changing. Before, parents knew about Open School and chose to send their kids here because they liked the philosophy. Now many children come here and parents don't know Open and aren't involved in the school or with their children at all. I am not saying all parents are like this, but many of the parents are. With condi-

tions and circumstances like these, change is inevitable.

I am just so sick of hearing people complain about it, and they don't even know what is going on. If they spent one day in a classroom, not even a day but an hour, they would see that the change is necessary and that teachers are not trying to change but they have to. They are doing it for the kids. People like to believe that the Open School philosophy works for everyone, but it doesn't. With kids getting themselves up and dressed every morning, putting themselves to bed, basically raising themselves, school is the last thing on their mind. The teacher's and the school's job has changed. They have become care takers, held responsible for the children and their futures.

Think about it, schools feed, cloth and teach them, all the parents have to do is make sure they get to school on time and get enough sleep so they will be rested for the next day. That's what makes it so sad: some par-

ents can't even handle that.

Maybe I am just bitter and what I am saying has no relevance to anything. Or maybe it does. But what I am trying to say is this: for everyone complaining about how the ELC is going downhill, and the teachers aren't doing anything to stop it, you're wrong.

"We have a great team of ELC teachers working together to come up with great solutions for the changes that need to occur, to handle the changing population," said Jaminie.

The way I see it, teachers are trying as hard as they can to solve the problems and still keep a bit of the Open School spirit alive. But it's hard. With all the changes going on at Open can we still keep the spirit alive?

"I think it's possible," said Evelyn Nordquist. "We just have to adjust our teaching style and gear students towards independent learning."

Doing this is hard when you have parents who aren't involved, kids who have so many

problems in their life and have experienced so much that they are 18-year-olds by the age of 10, or the other way around, emotionally underdeveloped so they act 6 when they are 10. Either way it's tough to meet their needs and still teach with an open class room, independent-learning-based curriculum.

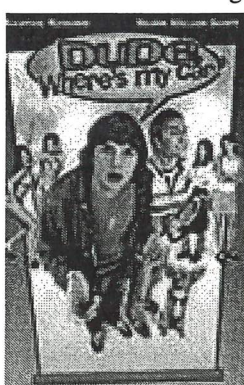
Really I guess there is no point to what I am saying. I am just trying to put a few things into perspective, make you think and basically just get a load off of my mind. I mean, who knows what will happen to Open School in the future, will it survive?

The way I see it is this: as long as there are teachers out there who believe in the Open School philosophy and keep the Open School spirit alive in their classrooms, a little bit of Open School will live on forever. I am not saying this to be all corny and sentimental, that is what I truly believe and as long as other people believe it too, then there is hope for Open School. ◇

DUDE From 4

like this. I would have laughed harder if someone would have bolted the doors to the theater and filled the place with liquid fire, scalded me and then pushed me down a flight of stairs with a chef's hat on my head.

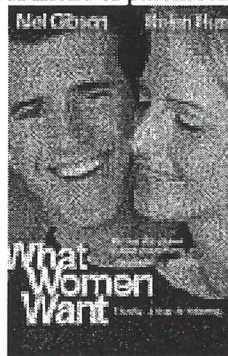
They were obviously trying to reach the teenage audience by buying into the humor of South Park, but it seemed to me director Danny Leiner has been out of touch with teenage culture for quite a while, because this movie has no relevance to me or any other teen I know. The makers of this movie must think us teens are really stupid because this movie made me gag.



Please, please, please do not waste your money on this rotten creamed corn of a movie. Just wait until it's on Fox 29 at five in the morning or something. No, wait, don't even watch it then. Seriously, I want my money back. ◇

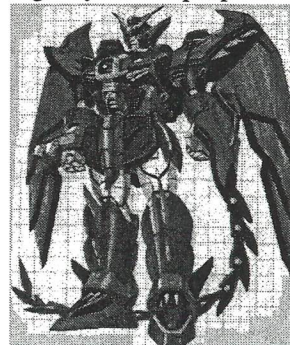
WOMEN From 4

relationships or married at one point to get most of the jokes. If you must see this movie, wait until it's at the cheap theater and see it for a buck, or have your friend or parent rent it for you. I give "What Women Want" one and a half out of five stars. Don't pay to see it. ◇



ANIME From 5

The last kind is the intellectual form, which usually uses all the other forms to convey a deeper meaning in a very confusing way. Most people don't like this kind



because it requires you to think, and as soon as you think you understand the concept of the movie, the plot twists in a completely different direction. ◇

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• Valentine's Day and All That Stuff,
• But Most of All We Love Panda Bears •
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